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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Large Scale Arrests of HMB Suspects by Armed Forces of the Philippines

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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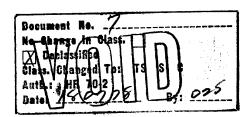
- 1. Farly in February 1951, 3,000 persons were arrested in Central Luzon by units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on suspicion of affiliation with the HTB These arrests were made without the knowledge of Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay.
- 2. Approximately 100 of the individuals arrested by the AFP were identified subsequently by an AFP source as members of the HMB.
- Ragsaysav renortedly was afraid that these indiscriminate arrests of IMB suspects would result in unfavorable publicity for the AFP. On 6 February 1951, students from Bulacan Province told Ragsaysay that they would launch a demonstration by all the students in Manila universities unless the majority of the persons arrested was released immediately. As a result of this protest, Magsaysav investigated details of this situation personally.

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Comment. This incident apparently was settled without adverse publicativ. However, the incident is an illustration of AFP techniques in investigating PMB suspects. Such large scale arrests of suspects recently have become one of tagsavsay's principal problems.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in considence with the letter of the Concidental Atomigence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008



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